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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/680,382	10/06/2003	Heinz-Jurgen Bergemann	ZTP01P12005	1823
7590 12/27/2005			EXAMINER	
LERNER AND GREENBERG, P.A.			PIERRE, MYRIAM	
POST OFFICE BOX 2480			ART UNIT	
HOLLYWOOD, FL 33022-2480			PAPER NUMBER	

2654

DATE MAILED: 12/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/680,382	BERGEMANN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Myriam Pierre	2654	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 10117292.3.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)               | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Forest (5,999,895).

As to claim 1, Forest teaches

A method of operating a program-controlled household appliance (col. 29 lines 20-25), which comprises: storing a set of program sequences in a memory and indicating the program sequences when required (col. 26 lines 26-47); permanently storing a set of programs specific to language regions in the memory (col. 28 lines 23-56); individually selecting and activating at least one of the programs with an external program selector having selector positions (col. 28 lines 23-40); permanently assigning each of the selector positions to at least one of the programs (col. 28 lines 16-32); providing additional functions for manipulation of a program selected by the program selector (col. 28 lines 22-50); selecting a desired indicating language by input manipulation (col. 29 lines 26-47); and making available an associated set of programs specific to language regions for selection by the program selector when an indicating language is selected (col. 28 lines 45-67 and col. 29 lines 1-26).

As to claim 2, which depends on claim 1, Forest teaches

providing the set of programs specific to language regions with corresponding user information (col. 28 lines 45-67 and col. 29 lines 1-26).

As to claim 3, which depends on claim 1, Forest teaches  
selecting the indicating language with a selector switch (col. 28 lines 45-67 and col. 29 lines 1-26).

As to claim 4, which depends on claim 1, Forest teaches  
after selecting the indicating language, permanently assigning each position of the program selector a program specific to a language region and permanently assigning each program a set of user information items specific to a language region (col. 28 lines 45-67 and col. 29 lines 1-26 and lines 35-40 and Figs. 61 and 64-67).

As to claim 5, which depends on claim 5, Forest teaches  
providing the indicating language selecting step as a reversible indicating language selecting step (col. 28 lines 45-67 and col. 29 lines 1-26; inherent in the choice of selecting language is reverse or changing language option).

As to claim 6, which depends on claim 1, Forest teaches  
reversing the indicating language selecting step after selecting the desired indicating language by input manipulation (col. 28 lines 45-67 and col. 29 lines 1-26).

As to claim 7, which depends on claim 1, Forest teaches  
separately selecting the programs specific to countries and the user information specific  
to languages from one another (col. 28 lines 45-67 and col. 29 lines 1-26).

As to claim 8, which depends on claim 1, Forest teaches  
acknowledging the language selection with an indicating element (col. 28 lines 45-67 and  
col. 29 lines 1-26).

As to claim 9, which depends on claim 1, Forest teaches  
acknowledging the selected indicating language with an indication of an internationally  
intelligible symbol (col. 70 lines 27-40; col. 28 lines 45-67 and col. 29 lines 1-26).

As to claim 10, which depends on claim 9, Forest teaches  
wherein the symbol is at least one of a letter and a word in the selected language (Figs. 61  
and 64-67).

As to claim 11, which depends on claim 1, Forest teaches  
indicating at least one of an operating state and a program sequence with one of  
internationally customary symbols and terms customary in the selected language, the symbols  
and terms being permanently associated with the program (col. 70 lines 27-55 and Figs. 61 and  
64-67).

As to claim 12, Forest teaches

A method of operating a program-controlled household appliance (col. 29 lines 20-21) with a set of program sequences stored in a memory and indicated when required, with an external program selector, by which programs are individually selected and activated, each position of the program selector being permanently assigned a program, and with additional functions for manipulation of a selected program (col. 30 lines 43-63), which comprises: permanently storing a set of programs specific to language regions in the memory (col. 25 lines 47-57); selecting a desired indicating language by input manipulation (col. 29 lines 35-40); and making available an associated set of programs specific to language regions for selection by the program selector when an indicating language is selected (col. 28 lines 45-67 and col. 29 lines 35-40).

As to claim 13, Forest teaches

In a program-controlled household appliance, a control panel comprising: a memory storing a set of program sequences (col. 24 lines 15-16); a controller connected to said memory and programmed to execute said program sequences and indicate said program sequences (Fig. 15, element 2106 and col. 25 lines 47-57); an external program selector having selector positions, said program selector connected to said controller for individually selecting and activating said programs, each of said selector positions being permanently assigned to one of said programs (col. 26 lines 27-46); functional units for manipulating a selected one of said programs (col. 26 lines 27-46 and col. 28 lines 45-67); an indicating area having: program and function selection elements (col. 27 lines 28-55); informational elements for informing a user

about a selection of said programs and said functional units (col. 29 lines 50-67); and a display as an indicating element for indicating respective ones of said programs and parameters of said programs (col. 28 lines 16-32); said memory storing a set of programs (col. 25 lines 47-57), from which at least two different ones of said programs can be called up specifically for language regions (Figs. 61 and 64-67); and operator control elements functionally linked to a command control of said controller for a selection of languages and programs specific to at least one of language regions and user information (col. 28 lines 45-67).

As to claim 14, which depends on claim 13, Forest teaches  
said display indicates the selected language (col. 28 lines 35-40).

As to claim 15, which depends on claim 13, Forest teaches  
said external program selector is a rotary selector having a number of positions for selecting said programs (col. 24 lines 26-40); and each of said positions is assigned an indicating element displaying an alphanumeric indication (col. 28 lines 16-32 and Fig. 38).

As to claim 16, which depends on claim 15, Forest teaches  
wherein said indicating element is a single display on which an assigned program is indicated according to a position of said rotary selector (col. 29 lines 35-40 and Fig. 31).

As to claim 17, which depends on claim 17, Forest teaches

wherein the indication of said program on said display contains therein individual parameters of a selected one of said programs (col. 28 lines 45-67).

***Conclusion***

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See attached PTO-892.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Myriam Pierre whose telephone number is 571-272-7611. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:30.

4. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richemond Dorvil can be reached on 571-272-7602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MP

12/19/2005

  
VIJAY CHAWAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER